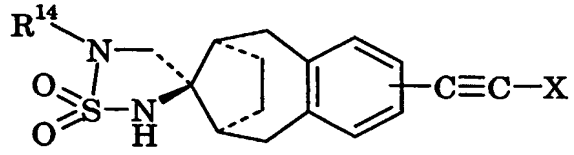
## CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula I:



I

wherein X represents Ar, L-N($R^1$)$_2$, L-CON($R^1$)$_2$, L-$CO_2R^1$ or L-CN;

L represents a hydrocarbon chain of 1-7 carbon atoms which, when the chain comprises 2 or more carbon atoms, is optionally interrupted by an oxygen atom;

$R^1$ represents H or $R^2$; or two $R^1$ groups attached to a single nitrogen atom may complete a heterocyclic ring of 3-7 members bearing 0-3 substituents selected from halogen, oxo, $NO_2$, CN, $CF_3$, $R^2$, $C_{2-6}$acyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, OH, $OR^2$, $CO_2H$, $CO_2R^2$, Ar, $ArCH_2O$, and ArO;

$R^2$ represents $C_{1-6}$alkyl which is optionally substituted with halogen, Ar, $NO_2$, CN, $CF_3$, OH or $C_{1-4}$alkoxy;

$R^{14}$ represents H or $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $C_{3-6}$cycloalkyl$C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, $C_{2-6}$alkynyl, phenyl or benzyl, any of which optionally bear up to 3 halogen substituents or one substituent selected from CN, $NO_2$, OH, $C_{1-4}$alkoxy, $CO_2H$, $C_{1-4}$alkoxycarbonyl, $C_{2-6}$acyl, $C_{2-6}$acyloxy, amino, $C_{1-4}$alkylamino, di($C_{1-4}$alkyl)amino, $C_{2-6}$acylamino, carbamoyl, $C_{1-4}$alkylcarbamoyl and di($C_{1-4}$alkyl)carbamoyl; and

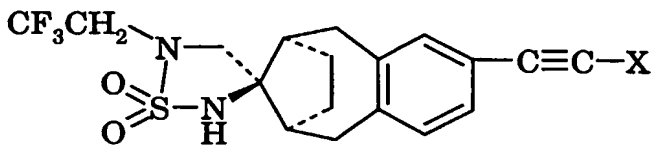
Ar represents phenyl or heteroaryl either of which optionally bears up to 3 substituents independently selected from halogen, $CF_3$, $NO_2$, CN, $OCF_3$, $C_{1-6}$alkyl and $C_{1-6}$alkoxy;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein X represents Ar and Ar represents optionally-substituted phenyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl or pyrazinyl.

3. A compound according to claim 1 wherein L is selected from $-CH_2-$, $-(CH_2)_4-$, $-(CH_2)_5-$, $-(CH_2)_2-O-(CH_2)_2-$ and $-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_2-$.

4. A compound according to claim 1 of formula II:



II

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. A compound according to claim 4 wherein X is selected from 6-membered heteroaryl, $-CH_2N(R^1)_2$, $-(CH_2)_5N(R^1)_2$, $-(CH_2)_4CON(R^1)_2$, $-(CH_2)_4CO_2R^2$, $-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_2CN$ and $-(CH_2)_2-O-(CH_2)_2N(R^1)_2$.

6. A compound according to claim 5 wherein X is selected from 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, pyrazinyl, 4-trifluoropiperidin-1-ylmethyl, $-(CH_2)_5NH-CH_2Ph$, $-(CH_2)_4CONHCH_2Ph$, $-(CH_2)_4CO_2H$, $-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_2CN$ and $-(CH_2)_2-O-(CH_2)_2NH_2$.

7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any previous claim and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

8. A compound according to any of claims 1-6 for use in a method of treatment of the human body.

9. The use of a compound according to any of claims 1-6 in the manufacture of a medicament for treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease.

10. A method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to Alzheimer's disease which comprises administering to that person an effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1-6.